

Rail Grade Crossing Improvement Program (RGCI) Enhancements

Questions and Answers

MN/DOT IS GRANTING A TIME EXTENSION FOR THE PROPOSALS BECAUSE THE EXHIBITS WERE NOT POSTED WITH THE ORIGINAL SOW. THE NEW PROPOSAL DUE DATE IS MARCH 3, 2010, 2:00PM CENTRAL TIME. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS WITHIN THE SOW FOR PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL.

1. Is a partial offshore team acceptable, given the comments in "1.5 Responder Required Work Location?"
This is at the Responder's discretion.
2. If so, is it acceptable to present two staffing and cost options in one proposal - one option with no offshore and one with a partial offshore team?
Staffing and cost are part of the rating criteria. If you are submitting two staffing options along with different cost proposals you must submit a separate technical proposal and a separate cost proposal for each option.
3. Performance Standards
What are the current RGCI performance standards? Have you collected any performance statistics? If so, what tools have you used for collecting these performance statistics?
Sufficient information is provided in the Statement of Work. No further information will be provided.
4. User Satisfaction:
Have you completed any user satisfaction survey(s). If so, can you share the survey details and results so we can have a better understanding of the user satisfaction requirements?
A user satisfaction survey was not conducted. System users identified the enhancements contained in this project.
5. Usability Standards:
What are the current usability standards? How much does the current application conform to those standards?
The MnDOT Application Development Unit will provide the applicable development standards to the selected vendor. RGCI was designed and built according the standards current as of 2005.
6. Productivity increase:
Does the productivity increase apply to the application performance or functional performance? How do you measure the performance increase?
Sufficient information is provided in the Statement of Work. No further information will be provided.

7. Reports:

What software tools are you currently using for reports development?

Crystal Reports was used to develop the system reports.

8. Database:

What was implemented or migrated when the current system was built? What is still remaining? Have you identified the database migration path? Is the migration of the database part of this assignment for the consultants? What is the size of the database (rows, columns, elements)

In the original RGCIP project, data on current railroad crossing projects was migrated to the new system. Data on all prior projects remains in the legacy MS Access system. As described in Section 4.3.5, data will be migrated as a part of Phase 2 of this project. Data migration tasks to be provided by MnDOT are described in Section 4.3.5. It is expected that records for approximately 1600 projects would be migrated. During the analysis conducted in Phase 1, the scope of the data migration will be finalized.

9. Service Calls:

What is the current service load? How many calls do you receive per week/month?

What type of issues do you generally get in the service calls? What are the issues with the current customer service?

Service calls have decreased to approximately one ticket per month due to the hiring of an Application Coordinator.

10. What do you estimate the staffing requirements are for development and implementing this project? When you completed the original project how many web specialists worked on this? Business Analysts? Data Architects? Data Analysts? Do you consider this project to be as large as the original build?

The estimated effort for the enhancement work described in the Statement Of Work is small in comparison to the original build of the RGCIP system. See the exhibits document for more information. The original project had approximately 4 developers (contract) and approximately 3 internal resources.

11. Will the State provide complete infrastructure for work: computers software tools etc.

See Section 4.3.6 of the Statement of Work details the infrastructure for work to be provided by Mn/DOT. If the vendor decides to perform all work on-site at Mn/DOT central office in St Paul, Mn/DOT would provide developer work stations for up to three vendor staff.

12. Will the State be conducting interviews? If so, when do you anticipate those to start?

The State reserves the right to conduct interviews. No specific dates are scheduled at this time.

13. Can you tell us who the original company was that built the application and if they will be allowed to bid on this project?

RGCIP was developed by Confluence International Inc. Any vendor is allowed to submit a proposal.

14. It states that not all work will need to be performed on-site but must be available to be on-site within 48 hours. Is the vendor responsible for all travel expenses?

Travel costs should be included within your cost proposal. You must identify how much you estimate spending on travel. If you do not Mn/DOT may deem your cost proposal non responsive and you will not be rated.

15. Will there be space allocated on-site for the vendor resources if they choose to work full-time on-site?

If the vendor decides to perform all work on-site at MnDOT central office in St Paul, MnDOT would provide work space for up to three vendor staff. Note, vehicle parking is the responsibility of the vendor.

16. In section 2.1.6 it states: The time frame for project execution could stretch out based on business availability. Do you anticipate that the vendor resources assigned to this project may not be able to work a consistent 40 hour week and may have to work on an as needed basis?

Yes

17. It appears that significant amount of effort and detail went into creating this RFP. Can we ask who created the RFP?

The RFP and exhibits were created by MnDOT staff.

18. Can you provide Exhibit A, B, C, and D?

They are now posted with the Statement of Work.

19. Should our proposal include estimates for Phase 1 only?

No, the proposer should submit an estimate for both Phase 1 and 2 as a part of their proposal. The list of enhancements for both Phase 1 and 2 is shown in Exhibit D. As described in Section 1.3.5 of the Statement of Work, after the Phase 2 analysis work is completed, the vendor is required to provide and updated estimate for the implementation of Phase 2 and scoping of Phase 3.

20. Question regarding the timeline indicated in 3.2: given the comment about the availability of the business resources may be limited, are the Due Dates provided an estimate and we can propose an alternative timeline? Are there other factors that dictate the timelines?

Timelines are an estimate.

21. Does MN/DOT currently use a formal sign-off process or will the selected responder institute their process?

How each of the project deliverables will be approved, will be determined by the MnDOT project manager in consultation during negotiations with the selected vendor.

